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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/080,823	02/21/2002	Yoshinori Hino	10417-120001 / F51-143214	9545

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EXAMINER

KIK, PHALLAKA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2825

DATE MAILED: 08/01/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/080,823

Applicant(s)

HINO ET AL.

Examiner

Phallaka Kik

Art Unit

2825

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 8-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-7 and 14-17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on applications filed in Japan on 2/28/2001 and 3/6/2001. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the P 2001-0536327, P 2001-053628, and P 2001-061828 applications as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Drawings

2. Figures 16, 17A, 17B, 17C, 17D should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated (see Applicant's specification, page 9, lines 13-16). See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because "and" (line 4, 2nd occurrence only, after "SRAMs") should be deleted for proper grammar. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Objections

4. **Claims 1-17** are objected to because of the following informalities:

As per **claim 1**, "the vicinity" (line 6) should be --a vicinity-- for proper antecedent basis.

As per **claim 2**, "the desired" (line 2) should be --desired-- for proper antecedent basis.

As per **claim 4**, "the same" (line 5) should be --a same--; "the output" (line 6) should be --an output-- and "the end" (line 6) should be --an end-- for proper antecedent basis.

As per **claims 2-7**, the claims are also objected to for incorporating the above errors into the respective claims by claim dependency.

As per **claim 8**, "the output group" (line 5) should be --output bit groups-- for proper antecedent basis and for proper grammar since "plurality" requires "group" to be plural.

As per **claim 9**, the claim is also objected to for incorporating the above errors into the claim by claim dependency.

As per **claim 10**, "the state" (line 7) should be --a state-- for proper antecedent basis; --group-- should be inserted after "bit" (line 9) to clearly identify the referenced element.

As per **claim 12**, "wiring includes" (line 2) should be --wirings include-- for proper antecedent basis and for proper grammar.

As per **claim 14**, "the same" (line 3) should be --a same--; "the end" (line 4) should be --an end-- for proper antecedent basis.

As per **claim 17**, "the same" (line 2) should be --a same-- for proper antecedent basis.

As per **claims 11-17**, the claims are also objected to for incorporating the above errors into the respective claims by claim dependency.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. **Claims 1-3,8-13** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Bright et al.** (US Patent No. 6,008,821).

As per **claims 1,2,3**, all of the elements of the claims are illustrated in Fig. 1, wherein the drivers (i.e., I/O drivers receivers) are equally connected to the memory portions (12), which are equally arranged in the vicinity of the drivers, grouped into four sections shown, wherein each memory portion are arranged at the center portion of the chip in that the memory portions 12 are each symmetrically, centrally formed from the center portion of the chip 10 as shown, wherein since the drivers drives a portion of the LCD display and/or the CRT display (col. 9, lines 53-67), the drivers applying to the anode and cathode portions of the display components are inherently included.

As per **claims 8-13**, all of the elements of the claims are illustrated in Fig. 1, wherein the drivers (IO Drivers Receivers) are at periphery of the chip 10 as shown and properly fitted into the shape of the chip (i.e., to circle fitting shape of the chip) with wirings/connections as shown, wherein the bit group is at least grouped in accordance to corresponding VRAM port 17, digital port 44, triple 8-big D/A converter 18, wherein since the drivers drives a portion of the LCD display and/or the CRT display (col. 9, lines

53-67), the drivers applying to the anode and cathode portions of the display components are inherently included, and wherein the wirings including power source lines are inherently included in order to make the circuit components functional or operational.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. **Claims 4-7,14-17** are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if the claims are written to overcome the objections due to minor informalities as given above, and if claims 4 and 14 are rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

As per **claims 4-7**, claim 4, which the claims depend, recite the patter layout method of a semiconductor made in one chip with an anode driver, a cathode driver, and memory portions comprising the inventive step of forming a dummy pattern having the same shape as the output bit to be adjacent to the end portion of the output bit group, which the prior arts made of record failed to teach or suggest. Accordingly, the claimed invention is novel and un-obvious over the prior arts made of record.

As per **claims 14-17**, claim 14, which the claims depend, recite pattern layout method of a semiconductor device constituting drivers for driving display where drivers, memory portions made in one chip, the drivers arranging plural output regions corresponding to one bit to constitute output bit groups, the method comprising the inventive step of forming a dummy pattern having the same shape as the output bit to

be adjacent to the end portion of the output bit group, which the prior arts made of record failed to teach or suggest. Accordingly, the claimed invention is novel and unobvious over the prior arts made of record.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Therefore, Applicant is requested to consider them carefully in response to this Office Action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phallaka Kik whose telephone number is 703-306-3039. The examiner can normally be reached on Flexitime.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew S. Smith can be reached on 703-308-1323. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9318 for regular communications and 703-872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1782.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

or faxed to:

703-872-9318 (for Before-Final) and 703-872-9319 (for After-Final) for
formal communications intended for entry,

Or:

(703) 746-4111 (for informal or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" and let the examiner know prior to faxing)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Plaza 4, 2201 South
Clark Place, Arlington, VA 22202, Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

11. Applicant should note that effective May 1, 2003, the United States Patent and Trademark Office has a new Commissioner for Patents address for transitioning to the new Office location in Alexandria, VA, wherein correspondence in patent-related matters to organizations reporting to the Commissioner for Patents must now be addressed to:


Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



MATTHEW SMITH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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PK 
July 23, 2003